

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
Facsimile Transmission

195010



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Arthur Block
ATSDR
New York

Sender Telephone Number:

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Number of Pages:

3

(including this page)

Date:

12/23/91

Subject:

Adel Cooperage
HEALTH Consultation -
ATSDR Record of Activity (AROA)

Comments:

For your information & comment, please find attached the AROA which will form the basis for the written health consultation requested. Call me in N.Y./NT if you have any questions or concerns - Arthur Block

ATSDR Facsimile Numbers:

Office of the Assistant Administrator
Executive Park, Building 37, Room 3726
639-0700; Fax # 639-0744
Office of Information Resources Management
Executive Park, Building 37, Room 3733
639-0720; Fax # 639-0740
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Executive Park, Building 33, Room 3321
639-6000; Fax # 639-6060
Division of Health Assessment & Consultation
Executive Park, Building 31, Room 3134
639-0610; Fax # 639-0654
Division of Health Studies
Executive Park, Building 35, Room 3526
639-0550; Fax # 639-0569
Division of Health Education
Executive Park, Building 37, Room 3756
639-0730; Fax # 639-0746
Regional Services
Executive Park, Building 31, Room 3171
639-0607; Fax # 639-0653
Regional Fax Numbers (ITS # except Reg. 1)
Region 1: 617-860-4397 Region 6: 255-2237
Region 2: 264-9674 Region 7: 276-7061
Region 3: 597-0994 Region 8: 330-7559
Region 4: 347-1667 Region 9: 484-1797
Region 5: 886-2771 Region 10: 399-2142

ATSDR Record of Activity

UID #: 1 d 1 0 Date: 12/20/91 Time: _____ am _____ pm _____

Site Name: Ideal Cooperage City: Jersey City Cnty: Hudson State: NJ

CERCLIS #: NJD980532907 Cost Recovery #: 206P Region: 2

Site Status (1) ☐ NPL ☒ Non-NPL ☐ RCRA ☐ Non-Site specific ☐ Federal
(2) ☐ Emergency Response ☒ Remedial ☐ Other

Activities

<input type="checkbox"/> Incoming Call	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Meeting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health Consult*	<input type="checkbox"/> Site Visit*
<input type="checkbox"/> Outgoing Call	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Health Referral	<input type="checkbox"/> Info Provided
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference Call	<input type="checkbox"/> Data Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Written Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Training
<input type="checkbox"/> Incoming Mail			<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Requestor and Affiliation: (1) Lisa Voyce

Phone: 908 906-6931

Address: 2890 Woodbridge Ave., BLDG. 209

City: Edison State: NJ Zip Code: 08837

Contacts and Affiliation

(2) Dan Harkay, OSC, 315 469-3554 () _____

() _____
1=ATSDR 2=EPA 3=Other Fed 4=State Health 5=State Environment
6=Local Health 7=Elected Official 8=Private Co 9=Private Citizen
10=News Media 11=Citizen Group 12=USCG 13=Natl Resps Cntr 14=Other

Program Areas

<input type="checkbox"/> Health Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> Health Studies	<input type="checkbox"/> Tox Info-profile	<input type="checkbox"/> Worker Hlth
<input type="checkbox"/> Petition Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> Health Surveillnc	<input type="checkbox"/> Tox Info-Nonprofil	<input type="checkbox"/> Admin
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Disease Registry	<input type="checkbox"/> Subst-Spec Resch	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health Consultation	<input type="checkbox"/> Exposr Registry	<input type="checkbox"/> Health Education	

Narrative Summary:

The Ideal Cooperage site is located on New York Ave, Jersey City, NJ. The 3 acre site is composed of 2 parcels of land at different elevations separated by a 50-90 foot cliff. Operations at the facility were conducted from 1952-81 and consisted of the washing and reconditioning of used steel drums for the chemical industry. The area of concern is the upper parcel (lot 10A), which was utilized for empty drum storage. Drums in various degrees of deterioration containing phenols, cresols, and acids were identified and subsequently removed. The upper parcel is undeveloped and overgrown with heavy vegetation. The site is located in a primarily industrial area. The distance to the nearest residence is approximately 1000 feet. The southern border of the site is parallel to a railroad line and the remainder of the

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site is fenced. The site has been used as a play area for neighborhood children. The original surface soil sample collected on 5/22/91 detected total mercury at 517 ppm. Removal actions consisting of drum removal and six 12 foot test pit excavations have been completed. Post removal surface soil samples (0-6 inches) from the test pit #4 area collected on 10/11/91 detected total mercury at 292, 28.5, and 113 ppm.

Action Required/Recommendations/Info Provided:

The site has previously been used as a play area for children. Access has only been partially restricted. The estimated dose recieved by a 35 kg child ingesting 250 mg of soil per day containing 517 or 292 ppm total mercury would be 0.0036 and 0.0021 mg Hg/kg/day respectively. The EPA sub-chronic and chronic reference dose (RFD) for methyl mercury and inorganic mercury compounds is 3E-4 mg/kg/day. The EPA subchronic and chronic RFD for phenylmercuric acetate is 8E-5 mg Hg/kg/day. The dose recieved from soil ingestion of organic and inorganic mercury compounds would not be expected to result in short-term adverse health effects. However, long-term frequent exposure to organic and inorganic mercury contaminated soil may result in an increased health risk to children. Elemental mercury could produce toxicity through the inhalation of mercury vapor if brought indoors from the site. Mercury brought home on workers clothing may present a health concern to family members. Various exposure to different mercury containing compounds may affect different target organs. In general, oral exposure to organic mercury and inhalation exposure to metallic mercury affect the nervous system. Oral exposure to inorganic mercuric salts tend to result in renal effects. Chronic exposure to these can also cause neurological effects. There may be a potential chronic health threat to workers from exposure to various forms of unidentified mercury compounds. Access to the site should be restricted to prevent children from entering. Additional sampling is needed to determine the extent of the mercury contamination. This sampling should identify specific mercury compounds in addition to total mercury.

Signature: _____

Joseph Little

Date: _____

12/20/91

Concurrence: _____

Buch Gussner

Date: _____

12-20-91